

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1016

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to recognize and congratulate William B. "Jake" Lockert III on his service as President of the Tennessee District Public Defender's Conference for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, William B. "Jake" Lockert III is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lockert has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to this State by his service as President of the Tennessee District Public Defender's Conference for the 2007-2008 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Jake Lockert graduated with honors from the University of Tennessee in 1980 and obtained his juris doctor degree from Memphis State University Law School in 1983; he was licensed to practice law in October of the same year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lockert began his distinguished legal career by practicing law with his father, W.B. Lockert, who was the District Attorney General for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District before his retirement; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Jake Lockert followed in his father's footsteps when he accepted a position as an Assistant District Attorney for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Mr. Lockert was elected to the office of District Public Defender for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District for an eight-year term and was re-elected in 2006; he has served in this position with acumen and alacrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his clients, constituents, and colleagues for his exemplary work; and

WHEREAS, a man of vision, Jake Lockert has implemented several outstanding programs and initiatives during his illustrious tenure as District Public Defender; he implemented the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Juvenile Advocates and was instrumental in starting the Drug Court program; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lockert has been an exceptional member of the Public Defenders Conference, rendering astute service as the Secretary/Treasurer of the organization during the 2005-2006 fiscal year, Vice-President during the 2006-2007 fiscal year, and he continues his adroit work as the elected President for the 2007-2008 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Jake Lockert's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep faith, Mr. Lockert is an active and devout member of a new church in Pleasant View that he is helping to establish, where he is also a teacher; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Jake Lockert is most grateful for the love and support he receives from his wife of more than twenty-five years, Theresa; their two sons, Bradley and Adam; and their daughter, Ashley; he is also the doting grandfather of Cadence; and

WHEREAS, an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, Mr. Lockert epitomizes the ideal of the consummate attorney, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, William B. Lockert III is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate William B. Lockert III on his service as President of the Tennessee District Public Defender's Conference and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.